

[Tuymans at David Zwirner Gallery](#)

[Tuymans at the Tate](#)

[Studio Luc Tuymans](#)

**Artist Resources – Luc Tuymans (Belgian, b. 1958)**

In 2004, the [Tate Modern](#) in London and the [K21 Kunstammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen](#) in Düsseldorf displayed a major exhibition of Tuymans’ paintings.

Tuymans’ first retrospective in the United States featured more than 70 paintings made between 1978 and 2009. The exhibition originated at the [Wexner Center for the Arts](#) and traveled to the [San Francisco Museum of Modern Art](#), the [Dallas Museum of Art](#), the [MCA Chicago](#), and [BOZAR](#).

Tuymans has conducted a series of interviews throughout his career. Read one with [Artterritory](#) (2013), “Art is Created from Reality,” a second with Jason Farago for [Even Magazine](#) (2015), and a third in [Apollo Magazine](#) (2015).

In 2015, the Qatar Museums Gallery Al Riwaq in Doha installed a solo exhibition of Tuymans’ paintings. Read an [interview](#) with the artist in conjunction with the exhibition and a [review](#) in Artforum by Amanda Dalla Villa Adams.

*Luc Tuymans: Glasses* was installed at the [Museum aan de Stroom](#) in Antwerp before traveling to the [National Portrait Gallery](#) in London in 2016. The exhibition’s title was a nod to the artist “looking back” on his extensive oeuvre through a series of self-portraits of Tuymans wearing glasses.

The De Pont Museum in Tilburg, The Netherlands, was the first Dutch museum to host an exhibition of Tuymans’ work in 1995. In 2019, the artist installed [Luc Tuymans: The Return](#) as the second major display of his work in the museum. [Watch a video](#) of the exhibition installation led by Tuymans himself.



Tuymans, c. 2021  
Photography: Alex Salinas



Tuymans in his Antwerp studio, c. 2020  
Photograph: Mieke Verbijlen

[La Pelle – Luc Tuymans](#) was on display at the Palazzo Grassi, Venice in 2019. The exhibition was the artist’s first solo show in Italy since his participation in the Venice Biennale in 2001. [Download the exhibition guide](#) in English and [read a review](#) of the exhibition in the New York Times: “Luc Tuymans, Master of Moral Complexities, Tries Something New.” Harriet Lloyd-Smith also published an [extended article](#) about the exhibition in Wallpaper, connecting the artist’s two major exhibitions across eighteen years.

Read a 2020 interview in the [New York Times Magazine](#) in anticipation of the David Zwirner Hong Kong exhibition entitled [Luc Tuymans: Good Luck](#). The exhibition was Tuymans’ first solo exhibition in the region and was titled in support of the contemporaneous Hong Kong protests.

Take a [studio visit](#) with Artnet: “Belgian Painter Luc Tuymans on Why All He Needs in His Studio is Water, Cigarettes, and Silence (Also, Some Paint).”

[Secrets: Artificial Intelligence and Luc Tuymans](#) opened at BOZAR in 2021, displaying ongoing research on how AI understands the artistic process. [Watch a video](#) about the exhibition.



Luc Tuymans (Belgian, b. 1958)

**Library**, 2021

Oil on canvas

Private Collection; L2022:87.1

Belgian painter Luc Tuymans is interested in the moral complexities of memory and history. Raised in the second decade after World War II, which saw some of his family members join the wartime Dutch Resistance and others sympathize with Nazi ideology, Tuymans' practice grapples with the passage of time and fading memory of these events. **Library** is a recent example of this theme. The gilded bookshelves and thick tomes are brightly lit and slightly out of focus; the painting presents this collection of knowledge as static, glossed over, and slowly vanishing. The artist once said: "The idea with my imagery is that it has to work from afar, but once you get close to it, it disintegrates.... That's what it's all about."

*On view December 7, 2022 – March 12, 2023*